

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A deck system, suitable for use proximate a building on land, comprising:

a deck ~~including~~ having a plurality of floor members assembled to define a walking surface for users, each of said floor members being formed of ~~wood~~ composite material and assembled to have, and having a top surface of composite material, a ~~lower~~ bottom surface, and at least three sidewalls, said deck walking surface being formed of composite material and said deck having an outer edge said outer edge being at least one of formed from the sidewalls of each of a portion of said floor members;

deck support means ~~connected to said lower surface of each of said plurality of floor members~~ for supporting each of said plurality of floor members said bottom surface of each of said plurality of floor members being affixed to said deck support means;

first facing means formed to cover at least a portion of said outer edge and attached to one of said outer edge and said deck support means, said first facing means being configured not to extend into said walking surface and said first facing means being formed of metal; and;

second facing means positioned to cover and attached to at least a portion of said deck support means.[] and

~~wherein said first facing means and said second facing means are formed of metal.~~

Claims 2-4 (previously canceled).

Claim 5 (previously amended): The deck system of claim 1, wherein said metal is aluminum.

Claim 6 (original): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein said first facing means is coated with a surface finish means for preserving said facing and for presenting a selected exterior color.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The deck system of Claim 6, wherein said surface finish means has a color selected to coordinate with the color of of said deck.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein said metal is treated with a powder paint material.

Claim 9 (previously canceled).

Claim 10 (previously amended): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein said first facing means and said second facing means are each coated with surface finish means for preserving said facing and for presenting a selected exterior color.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 10, wherein said surface finish means is powder paint.

Claims 12-16 (previously canceled).

Claim 17 (previously amended): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein said deck support means includes a deck support member, and further including a facing support member attached to said deck support member and positioned to form a slot between said facing support member and the lower surface of a portion of said plurality of floor members forming said outer edge of said deck, and wherein said first facing means has an outer surface and an inner surface, and a slot member extending away from said inner surface, said slot member being sized to be inserted into and frictionally engage said slot.

Claims 18-32 (previously canceled).

Claim 33 (currently amended): A deck system, comprising:

a deck ~~including~~ having a plurality of floor members assembled to define a walking surface for users, each of said floor members being formed of composite materials and assembled to have ~~having~~ a top surface, a ~~lower~~ bottom surface, and at least three side walls, said ~~plurality of floor members being arranged to form a deck~~ walking surface being formed of composite material, and said deck having an outer edge formed from ~~at least one of the side walls of each of a portion of~~ said floor members;

deck support means ~~connected to said lower surface of each of said plurality of floor~~

~~members~~ for supporting each of said plurality of floor members, said bottom surface of each of said plurality of floor members being affixed to said deck support means;

first facing means formed to cover at least a portion of said outer edge, and attached to one of said outer edge and said deck support means, said first facing means being configured not to extend into said walking surface;

second facing means positioned to cover and attached to at least a portion of said deck support means; and

wherein said first facing means and said second facing means are formed of metal.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 33, wherein said first facing means and second facing means are coated with a surface finish means for preserving said facing and for presenting a selected exterior color.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 33, wherein said surface finish means is treatment with powder paint material.

Claim 36 (previously canceled).

Claim 37 (currently amended): The deck system of Claim 33, wherein said deck support means includes a ~~first~~ deck support member positioned proximate a portion of said outer edge, and further including a facing support member attached to said ~~first~~ deck support member and positioned to form a slot between said lower surface of one of said floor members forming said

portion of the outer edge of said deck, and wherein said first facing means has an outer surface and an inner surface, and a slot member extending away from said inner surface, said slot member being sized to be inserted into and frictionally engage said slot.

Claim 38 (previously amended): The deck system of Claim 1, further including railing means positionable along said outer edge to inhibit movement of people over said outer edge of said deck floor, said railing means including

first and second posts connected to said deck; and

first and second horizontal cross members, each of said cross members

having a first end connected to said first post and a second end

connected to said second post, said cross members being formed of metal.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The deck system of Claim 38, wherein said first facing means and each of said cross members ~~is~~ are coated with a surface finish means for preserving said facing and for presenting a selected exterior color.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 39, further comprising at least one additional horizontal cross member formed of metal.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 38, wherein said first and second horizontal cross members each have a first end and a second end and are connected to said first

post and said second post by an attachment means, said attachment means including, for each of said cross members, two slots formed and sized to fit said first and second ends of said cross member, and wherein said first and second ends are inserted into and frictionally engage said slots.

Claim 42 (previously amended): The deck system of Claim 1, further including railing means positionable along said outer edge to inhibit movement of people over said outer edge of said deck floor, said railing means including

first post and second post connected to said deck; and

a lower and an upper horizontal cross member, each cross member connected to

said first post and said second post; and

a plurality of balusters, each baluster having a first end connected to said lower cross member and a second end connected to said upper cross member, said balusters being formed from metal.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 42, wherein said balusters are connected to said cross members by inserting the first end of each of said balusters in a slot formed in said lower cross member, and by inserting the second end of each of said balusters in a slot formed in said upper cross member.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 42, wherein said balusters and said first facing means are each coated with a surface finish means for preserving said first facing means and said balusters and for presenting a selected exterior color.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 42, wherein said balusters and said first facing means are each coated with a surface finish including powder paint.

Claim 46 (previously canceled).

Claim 47 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 45, wherein said first facing means and said second facing means and each of said balusters are coated with a surface finish for presenting a selected exterior color.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The deck system of Claim 45, wherein each of said first facing means, second facing means, and each of said balusters is coated with a surface finish including powder paint.

Claim 49 (new): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein said first facing means is attached to one of said outer edge and said deck support means with screw means.

Claim 50 (new): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein said second facing means is attached to said deck support means with screw means.

Claim 51 (new): The deck system of Claim 1, wherein a facing support member is connected to said deck support means and said first facing means is attached to said facing support member.